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THE NEW MINNESOTA

PLUM QUARTETTE

JAN 14 1928
U. S. Department of Agriculture

Underwood—Monitor—Tonka—Golden Rod



THE MONITOR

The Above is Reproduced from an Actual Photograph of a Half Bushel Basket of Monitor Plums. Note their Immense Size

PROF. W. H. ALDERMAN SAYS:

"They are EQUAL in SIZE, COLOR and QUALITY to these western varieties."

FOR SALE BY

Coe, Converse & Edwards Co.

FORT ATKINSON, WISCONSIN

THE FOUR BEST PLUMS FOR CANNING AND HOME USE

Equal in Size and Superior in Quality to the Large California Plums Sold on the Market

The fruit is of large size, equal to the California Plums, and superior to them in flavor. These new fruits have retained the best qualities of each parent and eliminated the puckery, astringent qualities of the old type of cultivated plum. As these fruits can be grown here and ripened on the trees they have a distinct advantage over the California products that are picked green and shipped long distances.



THE UNDERWOOD

From \$4.00 to \$6.50 per Bushel

Prof. Franc P. Daniels, Minnesota University Agricultural College, writes the following of his experience with the Underwood Plum in 1926:

"The thing of special interest to me this past season was that practically the entire crop of our Underwood plums sold for \$4.00 to \$6.50 per bushel, marketing them in one-half bushel crates. This fact is of especial significance when it is borne in mind that last year was one of heavy fruiting in the native and old-fashioned cultivated plums, and that the price on plums the greater part of the season was \$1.75 to \$2.00 per bushel."

New Plums Wonderfully Productive.

Charles Haralson, who for several years was superintendent of the State Experimental Station, writes that he had twelve trees of the Monitor plum. They commenced to bear early and when five years old; they bore annually, three bushels per tree.



THE TONKA

What Prof. Yeager, of the North Dakota Experiment Station says:

"The new Minnesota plums rank along with Latham raspberries as the OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION of the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm"

A Testimonial From High Authority

"These new fruits which have attracted so much attention in this and other states, seem to be well adapted to our northern conditions. They are the product of crosses between native hardy Minnesota plums and the high quality of the Japanese plums and have combined to a remarkable degree the good qualities of both their parents. All the plums are characterized by their productivity and early fruiting habits. * * * In general, we feel that the plums of this group are a distinct addition to Minnesota horticulture. They certainly fill a long felt want in the home fruit garden. * * * From a commercial standpoint there seems to be no reason why they cannot sell equally well with the imported plums from California since they are equal in size, color and quality of these western varieties."

W. H. ALDERMAN
Chief Division of Horticulture.

Plant the Whole Collection

Experience of successful fruit growers has shown that plums bear more abundantly and regularly when planted as a collection. Cross pollination is then complete and you are sure of heavy crops and superior fruit.



THE GOLDENROD

PROPER ASSORTMENT FOR YOUR GARDEN

Full Family Collection

8 UNDERWOOD
6 TONKA
6 MONITOR
4 GOLDEN ROD

Small Garden Collection

4 UNDERWOOD
3 TONKA
3 MONITOR
2 GOLDEN ROD

Plant this assortment and they are sure to bear, because they will be properly pollinated.

These varieties ripen at different times and will give you fresh plums over a long period—about five weeks.

Your canning can be done at leisure, a little each week as the different varieties ripen. Each kind makes a different flavored sauce. You can peel these as you would peaches.

PLANT so you will have enough to EAT and CAN

DESCRIPTIONS

Underwood—First fruited in 1916, was distributed for trial in 1919. The tree is one of the best, is entirely hardy and very promising because of its large, early and attractive fruit which ripens over a long period of time from early August to early September. Bulletin 230 of the University of Minnesota, states that this variety has been successfully grown at several points in North Dakota, Winnipeg and Manitoba. The April number of the Minnesota Horticulturist for 1927, states that at Valley River, 160 miles north of the U. S. boundary line, this variety is the hardiest of any of the Minnesota varieties.

Monitor—First fruited in 1913, it was so promising that it was introduced without further trial and its continued success has justified the correctness of this early estimate of its value. Fruit is large, averaging $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter. Color, dark red; flesh tender, sweet, juicy but firm; quality good; season, August 15th to early September. Tree hardy and upright in growth. A plum for the home, the market and the children.

Tonka—Originated in 1908, and distributed for trial in 1915. A cross between the Wolf and Burbank plums. It has stood the severe tests of soil and climate for twenty years. In 1921, the Superintendent of the State Experimental Station, reported that twenty of these trees were loaded to the limit. Tree is hardy, exceedingly productive, fruit large, small pit, medium light red, flesh yellow, firm, tender, sweet, rich, skin smooth, semi-cling. Season August 15th to early September. A fine commercial plum because of its long keeping and shipping qualities.

Golden Rod—Originated in 1913, and distributed in 1923. A distinct departure from the usual type of red plum, its color being clear yellow, size large, very attractive. Because of its contrast to other plums, its firmness and good shipping qualities it is a good commercial variety.

TESTIMONIALS

By Leading Horticulturists & Prominent Fruit Growers

RAY P. SPEER, Prominent Horticulturist, Minneapolis, Minn.

The new varieties of plums originated by the Minnesota State Fruit Breeding Farm by crossing Japanese sorts with our own native plums are unusually promising both for home orchard use and for commercial plantings.

I have such confidence in them that I have just finished planting a commercial orchard of more than 1,500 trees of the eight leading varieties. Part of this orchard is entering its third year, another part is entering its second year, while a very small part has just been set out. There were a very few plums in the oldest section a year ago. The trees were loaded with bloom this year, and a small crop should be ready this season.

The Twin Cities and the northwest territory adjacent to them consume from 750 to 1,000 refrigerator cars of plums from the Pacific coast each season. The new varieties of Minnesota plums are of the same general type, appearance, and quality as the coast plums. Consequently the market which has been built up here by Pacific coast orchardists should be open to local growers, if care is taken by them to raise fruit of good size, grade it carefully, and pack it in containers that will appeal to buyers. It remains to be seen if this can be done successfully and profitably, but I believe it is possible.

If care is taken I believe that a big market for our Minnesota plums can be developed, and that the same high prices obtained for Pacific coast fruit can be gotten for it.

CHARLES HARALSON, Who for Several Years Was Supt. of the State Experimental Station, writes that:

He received for his Underwood plums, \$6.00 per bushel, packed in half bushel baskets. For other varieties he received on an average, about \$3.00 per bushel. One reason the Underwood sells for more than other varieties, is because it is earlier. Mr. Haralson had twelve trees of the Monitor plum. They commenced to bear early and when five years old, they bore annually, three bushels per tree.

PROF. A. F. YEAGER, Division of Horticulture, North Dakota Agricultural College.

I note that you ask for a statement that you might publish in your circular. The most I could say would be that "the new Minnesota plums rank along with Latham raspberries as the outstanding contribution of the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm."

PROF. W. G. BRIERLEY, Associate Professor of Horticulture, University of Minnesota, Department of Agriculture.

I am returning to you the color plates of the new plums which you sent for me to examine. I believe these are now about as representative of the actual fruits as we can expect where the artist does not have the fruits themselves to work over. The shape of these fruits is of course authentic as they are taken directly from photographs of the varieties.